CLAIMS:

- A cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition containing at least one emulsifier comprising
- a) at least one alkyl chain and/or alkenyl chain having at least 28 carbon atoms obtainable by polymerization of (C₂-C₅)-alkenes and which is linked with
- b) at least one carboxylic group selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid group, a carboxylic acid derivative group, carboxylic anhydride group, carboxylic anhydride derivative group, an ester group an amide group, and mixtures thereof.
- 2. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the (C₂-C₅)-alkenes are selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, butylene, isobutene and mixtures thereof.
- 3. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alkyl and/or alkenyl chain comprises a polyisobutenyl chain obtainable by polymerization of isobutene.
- 4. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alkyl chains and/or alkenyl chain comprises from 28 to 200 carbon atoms.
- 5. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic group is selected from the group consisting of a carboxylic acid, a carboxylic acid derivative, a carboxylic anhydride, a carboxylic anhydride derivative group, and mixtures thereof.
- 6. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic group is a carboxylic anhydride and/or carboxylic anhydride derivative group.

- 7. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic group is derived from unsaturated carboxylic acids and/or carboxylic anhydrides.
- 8. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic group is derived from the group consisting of acrylic acid, acrylic anhydride, methacrylic acid, methacrylic anhydride, maleic acid, maleic anhydride, and mixtures thereof.
- 9. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic group is derived from maleic acid and/or maleic anhyride.
- 10. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the emulsifier is an alkenylsuccinic anhydride according to formula (1) and derivatives thereof,

wherein n is equal to or greater than 4.

- 11. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid derivative and carboxylic anhydride derivative groups are those obtainable by reacting the carboxylic acid and carboxylic anhydride groups with a compound selected from the group consisting of alkali, mono- and polyfunctional alcohols, ammonia, aminoalcohols, unsubstituted mono- and polyamines, substituted mono- and polyamines and mixtures thereof.
- 12. The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the carboxylic anhydride derivative groups are those obtainable by reacting maleic anhydride groups with a compound selected from the group consisting of

alkali, mono- and polyfunctional alcohols, ammonia, unsubstituted mono- and polyamines, substituted mono- and polyamines, and mixtures thereof.

- 13. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the emulsifier is obtainable by reacting alk(en)ylsuccinic anhydrides according to formula (1) with a compound selected from the group consisting of akali, mono- and polyfunctional alcohols, ammonia, aminoalcohols, unsubstituted mono- and polyamines, substituted mono- and polyamines, and mixtures thereof.
- 14. The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mono- and polyfunctional alcohols are selected from the group consisting of monofunctional alcohols having 1 to 30 carbon atoms; ethoxylated and/or propoxylated monoalcohols; fatty alcohol ethoxylate; glycerol; polyglycerols; sugar alcohols; ethylene glycol; propylene glycol; oligomers of ethylene glycol; oligomers of propylene glycol; polyalkylene glycols; random, blocklike copolymers of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide, and mixtures thereof.
- 15. The composition as claimed in claim 14, wherein the mono- and polyfunctional alcohols are selected from the group consisting of methylglycols, glycerol, polyglycerol, polyalkylene glycols, and mixtures thereof
- 16. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the aminoalcohols are selected from the group consisting of ethanolamine, isopropanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, diethylethanolamine, dimethylethanolamine dibutylethanolamine, and mixtures thereof.
- 17. The composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mono- and polyamines are monoalkylamines having a (C_1-C_{30}) -alk(en)yl radical, dialkylamine having (C_1-C_{30}) -alk(en)yl radicals and/or polyethyleneimines.

- 18. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the emulsifier is obtainable by reacting alk(en)ylsuccinic anhydrides according to formula (1) with a compound selected from the group consisting of glycerol, methyltriglycol, polyethylene glycols, and mixtures thereof.
- 19. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the emulsifier is obtainable by reacting alk(en)ylsuccinic anhydrides according to formula (1) with triethanolamine and/or diethylethanolamine.
- 20. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein, in the reaction with alcohols, aminoalcohols and amines, the molar ratio of carboxylic anhydride groups to alcohol, aminoalcohol and amine is in each case 1:0.9 to 1:2.
- 21. The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein, in the reaction with alcohols, aminoalcohols and amines, the molar ratio of carboxylic anhydride groups to alcohol, aminoalcohol and amine is in each case 1:0.9 to 1:1
- 22. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the emulsifier comprises 0.1 to 8% by weight of the cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition.
- 23. The composition as claimed in claim 1, which is in the form of an emulsion.
- 24. The composition as claimed in claim 1, which is in the form selected from the group consisting of an ointment, a cream, a lotion, a gel, and a spray.